

### REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Office Action, the Examiner required an election between one of three (3) groups of claims. Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group I drawn to probes and compositions containing such probes (Claims 1-21).

Claims 22-63 which are drawn to non-elected Groups II and III are withdrawn. However, because claims of Groups II and III are drawn to use of the products of Group I, Applicants respectfully request that the claims of Group II and III be rejoined should claims of Group I be found to be allowable. Applicants also reserve the right pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 121 to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter during the pendency of the present application.

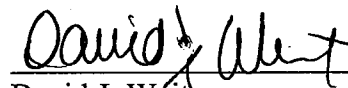
### CONCLUSION

Applicants earnestly believe that they are entitled to a letters patent, and respectfully solicit the Examiner to expedite prosecution of this patent application to issuance. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is encouraged to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,  
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By:



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